



DEPUTY SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
1010 DEFENSE PENTAGON
WASHINGTON, DC 20301-1010

MAY 17 2002

Honorable Bob Stump
Chairman, Committee on Armed Services
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-6035

Dear Mr. Chairman:

I am pleased to outline the plan of the Department of Defense (DoD) to meet the requirements of Section 318 of the *National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2002* concerning the procurement of alternative fueled and hybrid light duty trucks.

DoD has encouraged the use of alternative fueled and hybrid vehicles within the Department through changes in our alternative fueled vehicle strategy. Our strategy includes hybrid light duty truck metrics and identifies hybrids as a key technology in meeting the intent of the *National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2002*, the *Energy Policy Act of 1992* (EPAct) and Executive Order (E.O.) 13149, *Greening the Government Through Federal Fleet and Transportation Efficiency*. Additionally, we are updating DoD Regulation 4500.36-R, *Management, Acquisition, and Use of Motor Vehicles*, to institutionalize the requirement to acquire non-tactical hybrid vehicles. However, near term availability of hybrid vehicles for the Federal government is an issue.

Our discussions with the General Services Administration's (GSA) Automotive Division revealed that there are no commercially available hybrid light duty trucks at this time. Furthermore, vehicle manufacturers are focusing their limited hybrid sedan supplies towards the private sector and have not offered any hybrid sedans for the GSA schedule. We will continue to work with GSA to address the availability of hybrid light duty vehicles for the Department's fleet managers.

DoD will procure hybrid vehicles as they become available through GSA. Their introduction into the fleet will help ensure our compliance with the intent of the National Defense Authorization Act, EPAct, and E.O. 13149.

A similar letter has been provided to the other congressional defense committees.

Sincerely,

cc:
Honorable Ike Skelton
Ranking Minority Member

